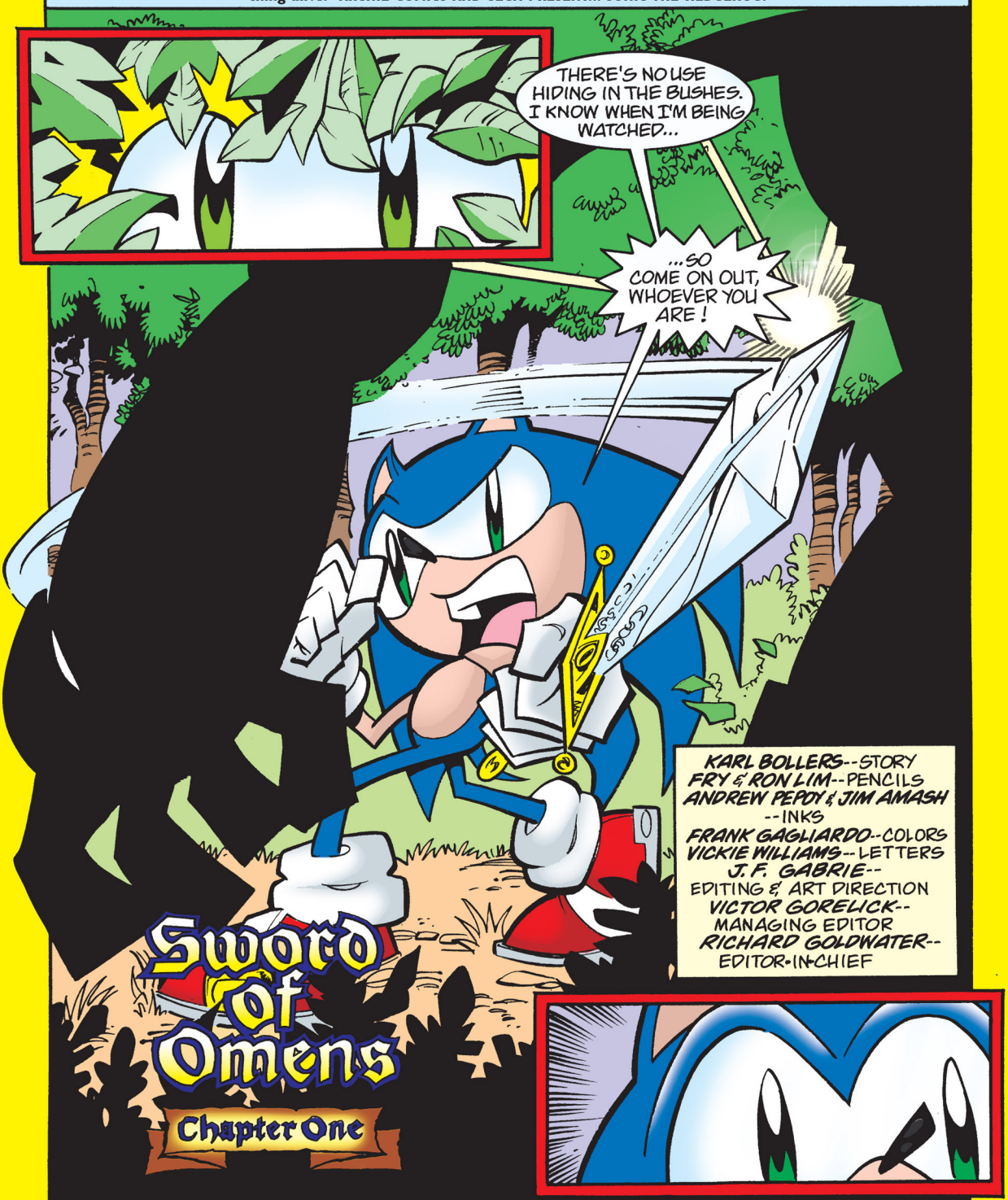
THE WORLD'S MOST WAY PAST COOL COMIC!
Archie
ADVENTURE SERIES
NO.90 JAN.
US $1.99
CAN $2.19
SONIC
THE HEDGEHOG
APPROVED BY THE COMICS CODE AUTHORITY

After ten long years, the iron-fisted rule of DOCTOR ROBOTNIK over planet MOBIUS was believed to have finally ended! With the technological tyrant vanquished and his polluted factories shut down, order and beauty were restored to the city of MOBOTROPOLIS. Now the villain has returned to wreak havoc once more, but there are many who are willing to stand against him in the fight for freedom. The bravest among them is a brash, blue streak who just happens to be the fastest thing alive! ARCHIE COMICS AND SEGA PRESENT... SONIC THE HEDGEHOG!


THERE'S NO USE HIDING IN THE BUSHES. I KNOW WHEN I'M BEING WATCHED...
...SO COME ON OUT, WHOEVER YOU ARE!
Sword of Omens
Chapter One
KARL BOLLERS--STORY
FRY & RON LIM--PENCILS
ANDREW PEPOY & JIM AMASH --INKS
FRANK GAGLIARDO--COLORS
VICKIE WILLIAMS--LETTERS
J. F. GABRIE--EDITING & ART DIRECTION
VICTOR GORELICK--MANAGING EDITOR
RICHARD GOLDWATER--EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

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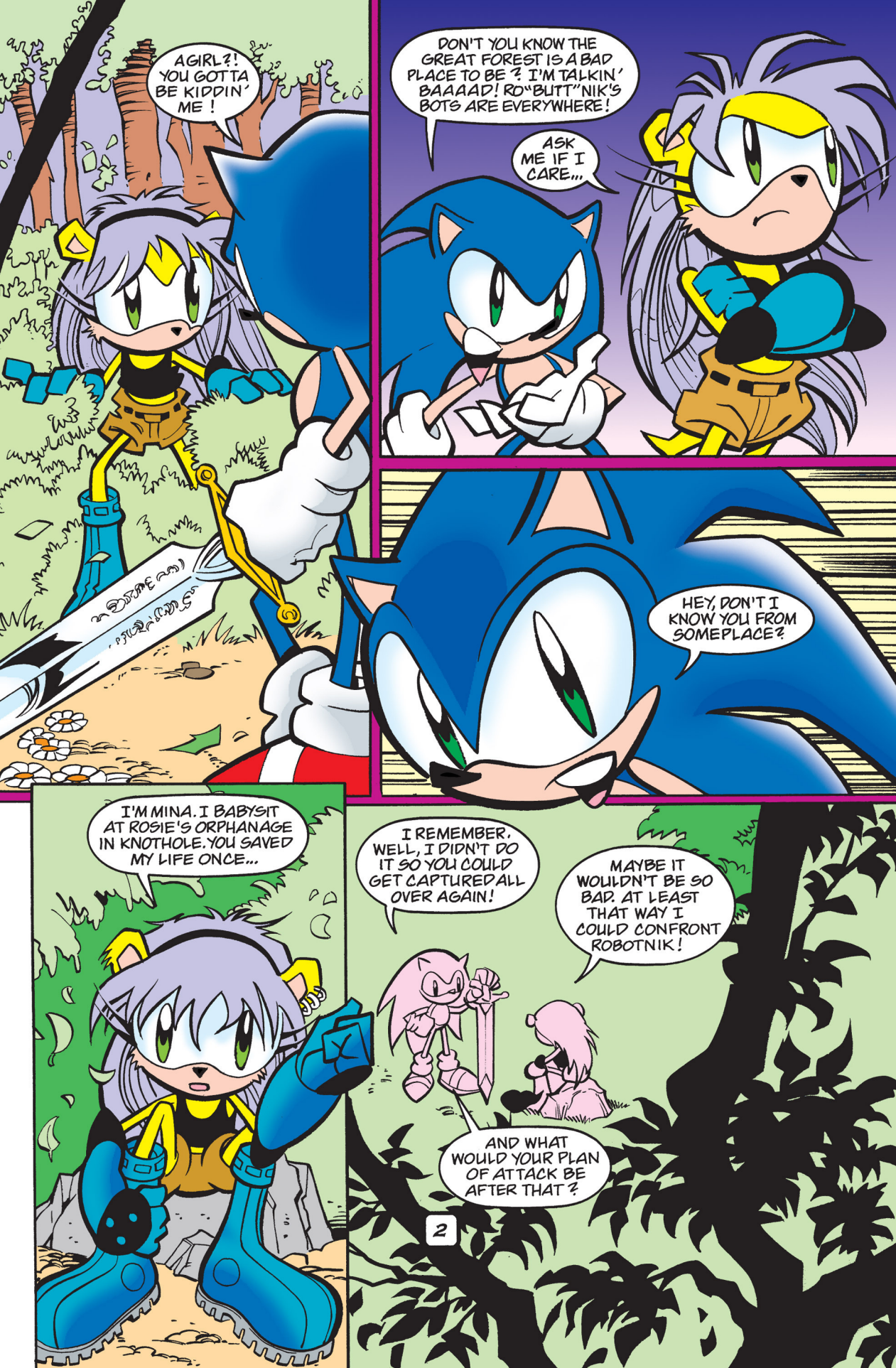
A GIRL?! YOU GOTTA BE KIDDIN' ME!
DON'T YOU KNOW THE GREAT FOREST IS A BAD PLACE TO BE? I'M TALKIN' BAAAAD! RO"BUTT"NIK'S BOTS ARE EVERYWHERE!
ASK ME IF I CARE...
HEY, DON'T I KNOW YOU FROM SOMEPLACE?
I'M MINA. I BABYSIT AT ROSIE'S ORPHANAGE IN KNOTHOLE. YOU SAVED MY LIFE ONCE...
I REMEMBER. WELL, I DIDN'T DO IT SO YOU COULD GET CAPTURED ALL OVER AGAIN!
MAYBE IT WOULDN'T BE SO BAD. AT LEAST THAT WAY I COULD CONFRONT ROBOTNIK!
AND WHAT WOULD YOUR PLAN OF ATTACK BE AFTER THAT?
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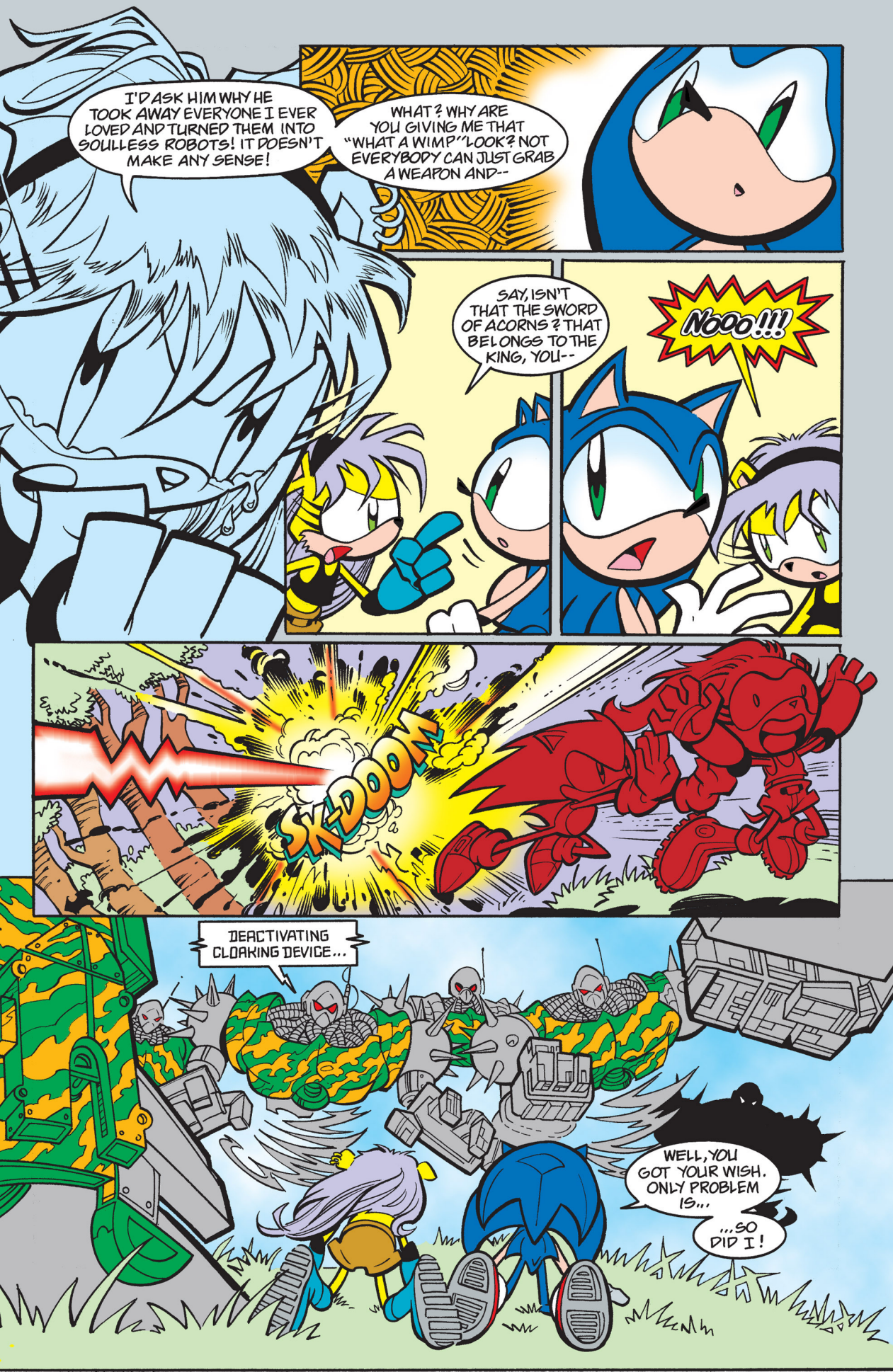
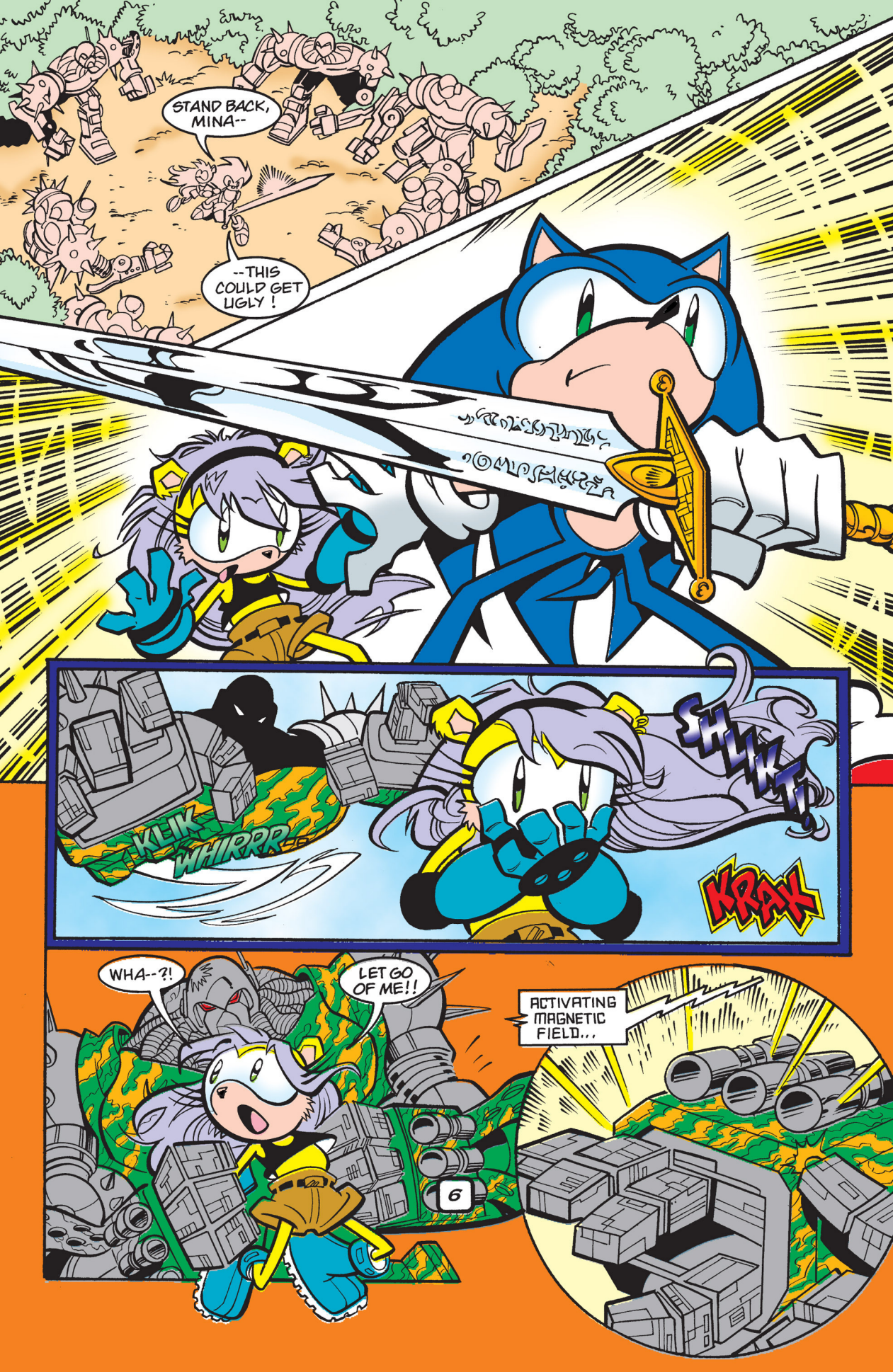
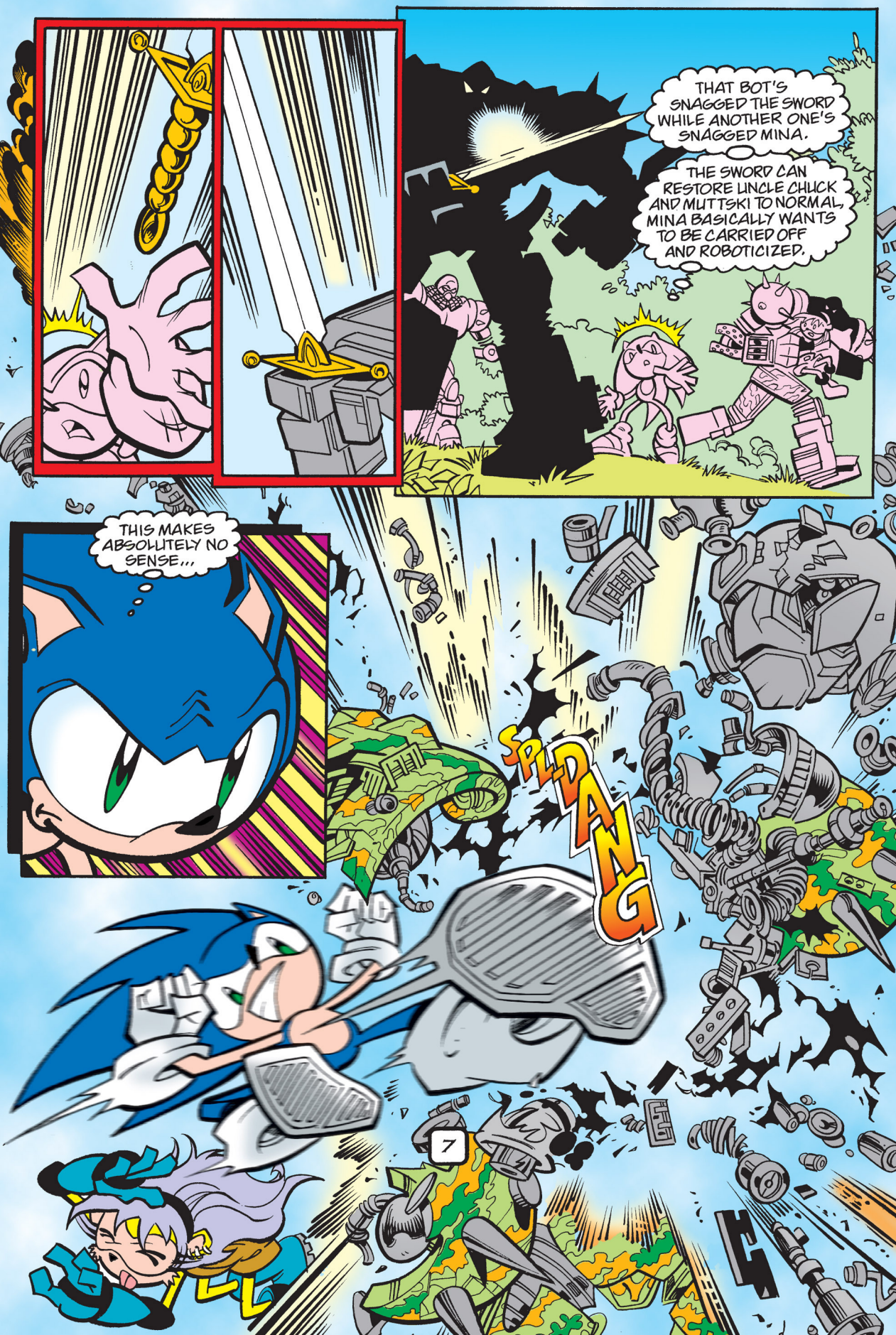
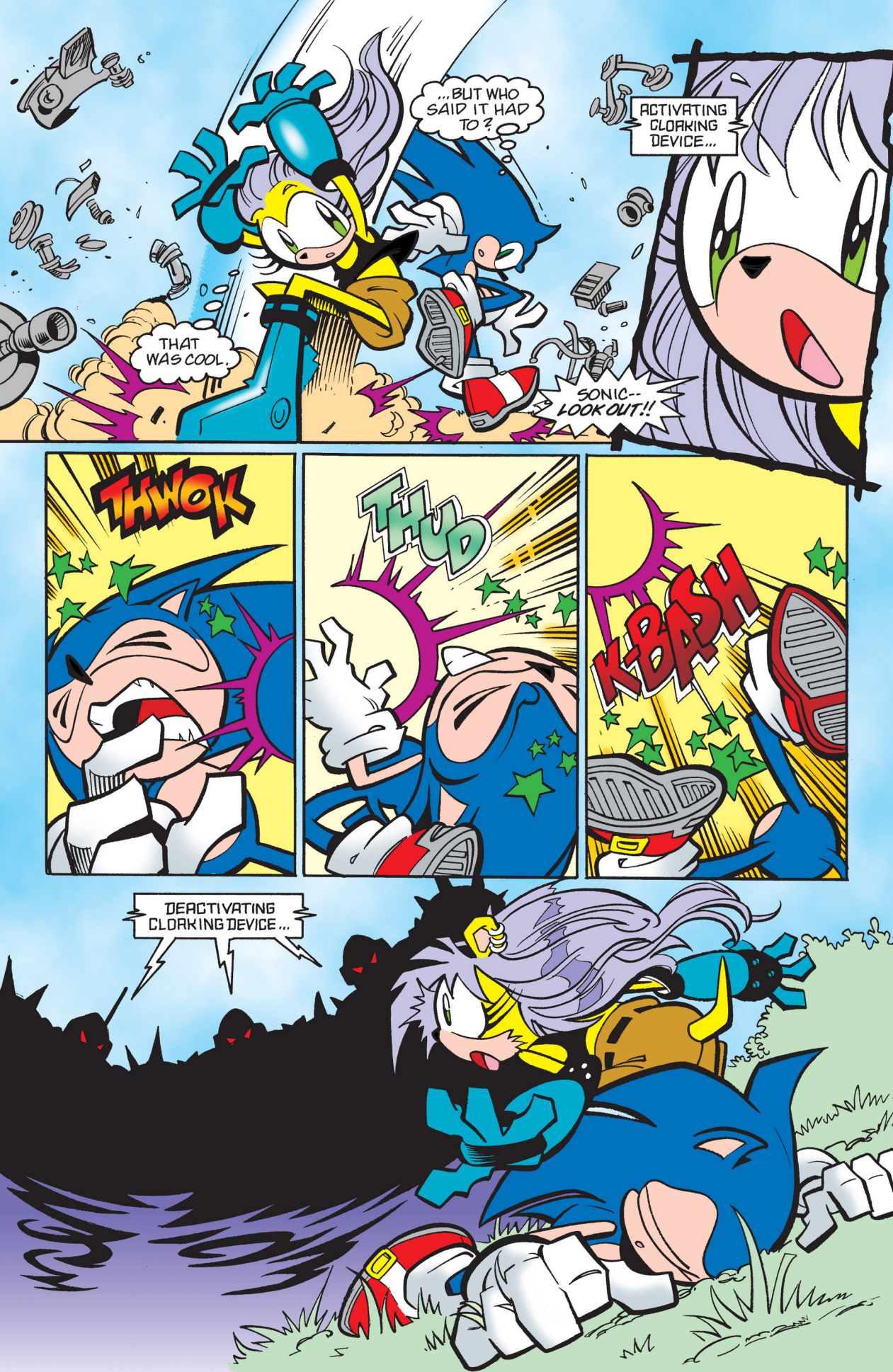

I'D ASK HIM WHY HE TOOK AWAY EVERYONE I EVER LOVED AND TURNED THEM INTO SOULLESS ROBOTS! IT DOESN'T MAKE ANY SENSE!
WHAT? WHY ARE YOU GIVING ME THAT "WHAT A WIMP" LOOK? NOT EVERYBODY CAN JUST GRAB A WEAPON AND--
SAY, ISN'T THAT THE SWORD OF ACORNS? THAT BELONGS TO THE KING, YOU--
NOOO!!!
SK-DOOOM
DEACTIVATING CLOAKING DEVICE...
WELL, YOU GOT YOUR WISH. ONLY PROBLEM IS...
...SO DID I!

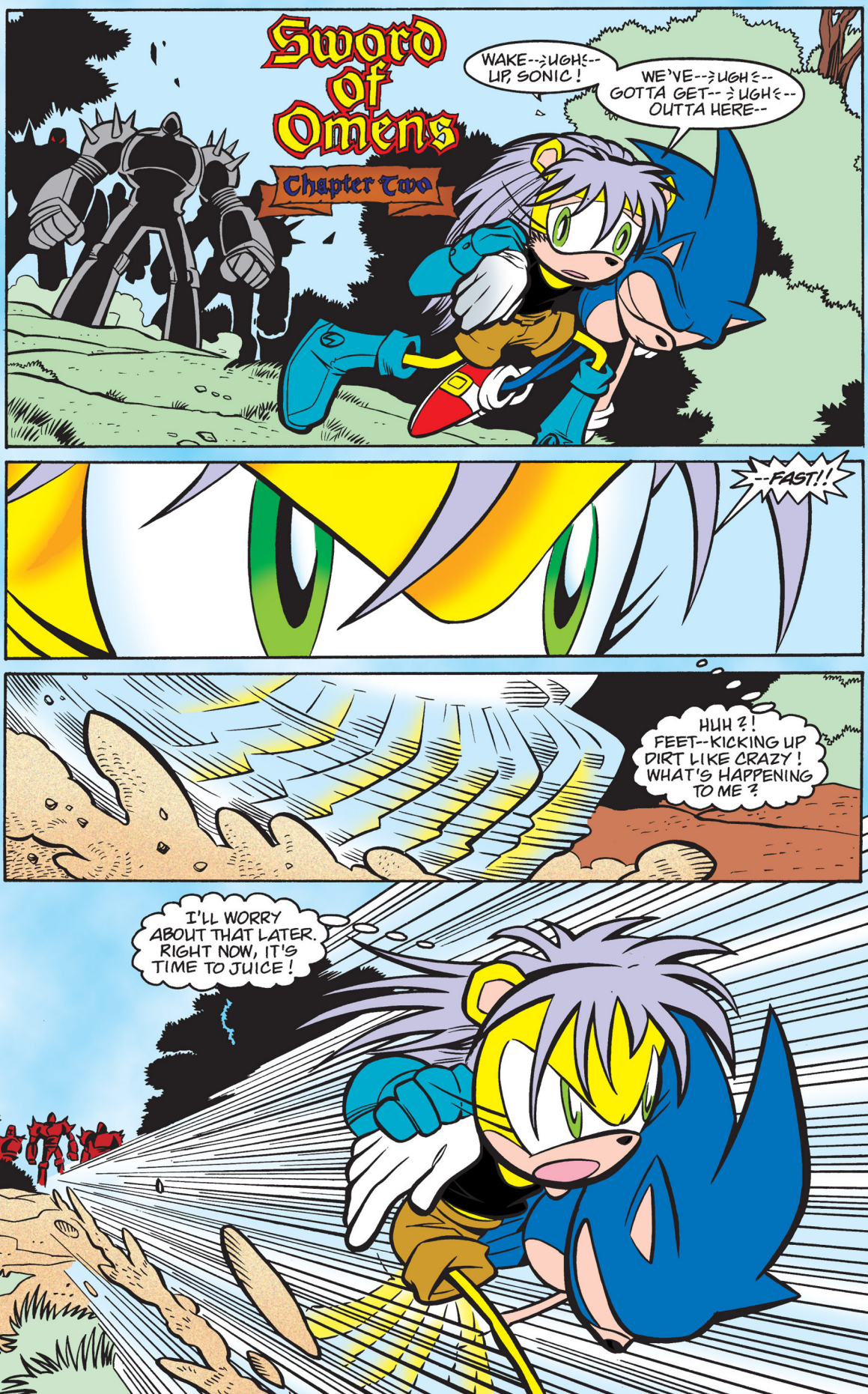
ROBOTROPOLIS...
EXCELLENT! I SENT MY UPGRADED COM-BOTS TO LOCATE THAT TROUBLESOME SWORD OF ACORNS...
...ONLY TO FIND IT IN THE HANDS OF MY MOST HATED ENEMY--SONIC! THEY CAN FINISH OFF THE RODENT AND BRING ME THE BLADE!
SONIC'S UNCLE AND HIS PET REMAIN ROBOTICIZED AND MINE TO COMMAND, BUT THE SWORD SEEMED TO BRIEFLY RESTORE THEIR FREE WILL...
...AND WE CAN'T ALLOW THAT, CAN WE, SIR CHARLES?

KNOTHOLE KINGDOM...
I CAN HARDLY BELIEVE IT! WE'RE GOING TO BE A FAMILY AGAIN!
BELIEVE, SALLY! NOW THAT YOUR MOTHER IS BACK, THINGS WILL BE AS THEY SHOULD! LONG LIVE QUEEN ALICIA...
OH, MAX...
ARE YOU STRONG ENOUGH TO WALK ABOUT, MUM?
I AM FOR YOU, ELIAS, WHY DON'T YOU JOIN ME, MAX?
I--
I--
I CAN'T MOVE MY LEGS!!
WHAT?
NOO!!
I'M SORRY...
...BUT WE TRIED OUR BEST...

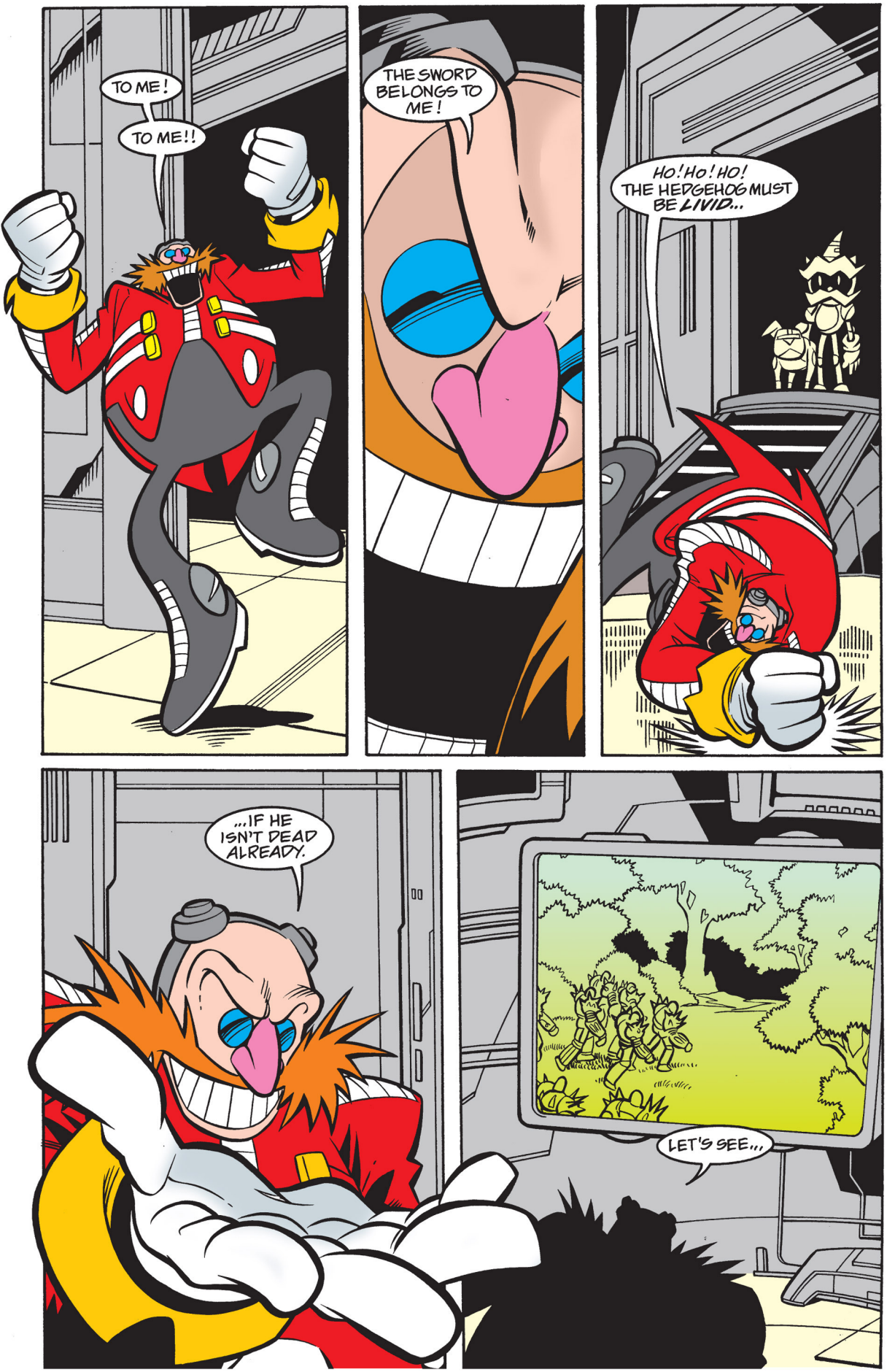

STAND BACK, MINA--
--THIS COULD GET UGLY !
KLIK WHIRRR...
SHLIKT!
KRAK
WHA--?!
LET GO OF ME!!
ACTIVATING MAGNETIC FIELD...
6

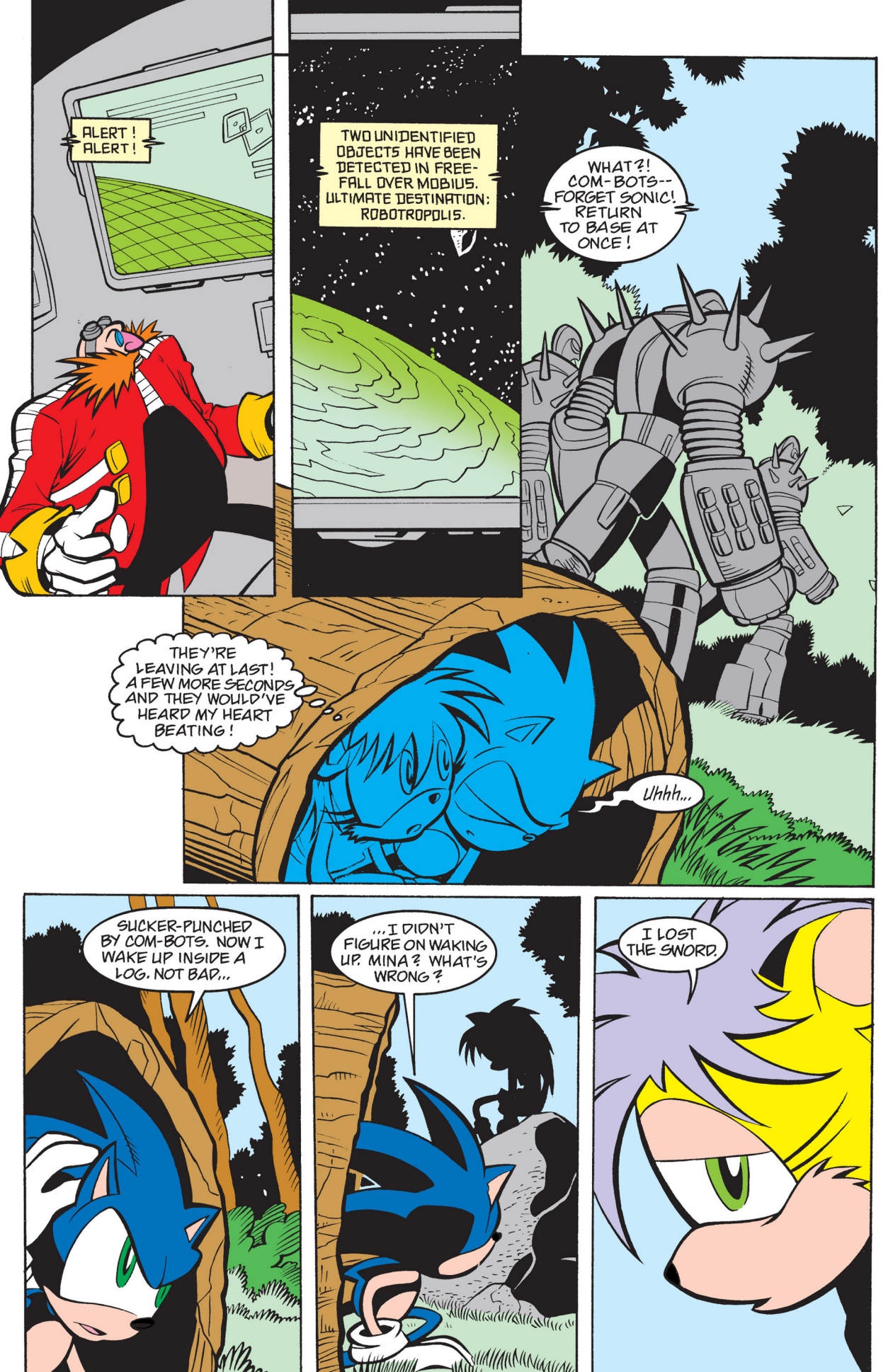

THAT BOT'S SNAGGED THE SWORD WHILE ANOTHER ONE'S SNAGGED MINA.
THE SWORD CAN RESTORE UNCLE CHUCK AND MUTTSKI TO NORMAL, MINA BASICALLY WANTS TO BE CARRIED OFF AND ROBOTICIZED.
THIS MAKES ABSOLUTELY NO SENSE...
SPLDANG
7

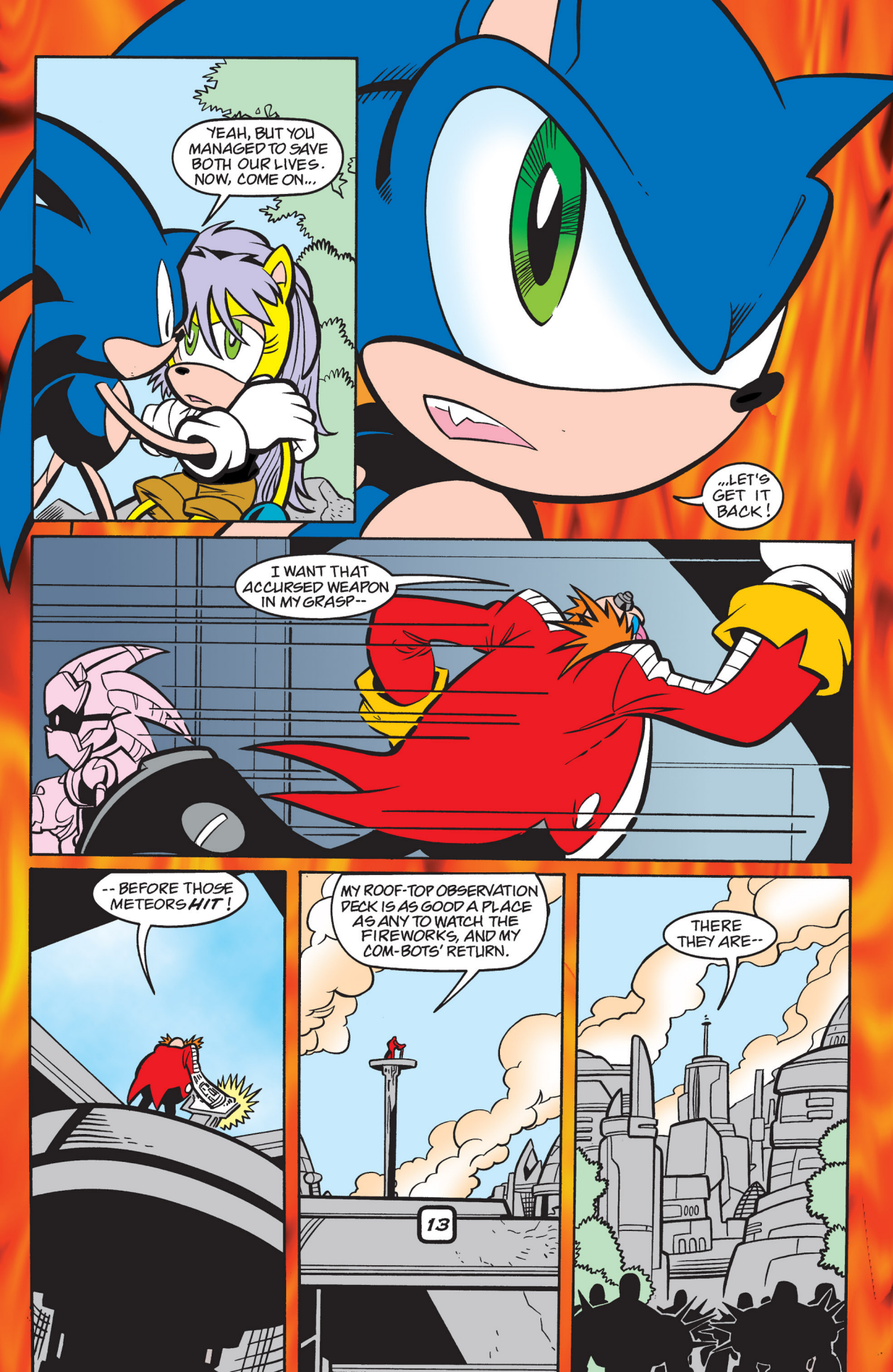

THAT WAS COOL.
...BUT WHO SAID IT HAD TO?
ACTIVATING CLOAKING DEVICE...
SONIC-- LOOK OUT!!
THWOK
THUD
K-BASH
DEACTIVATING CLOAKING DEVICE...


Sword of Omens
Chapter Two
WAKE--UGH!--UP, SONIC!
WE'VE--UGH!--GOTTA GET--UGH!--OUTTA HERE--
--FAST!!
HUH?! FEET--KICKING UP DIRT LIKE CRAZY! WHAT'S HAPPENING TO ME?
I'LL WORRY ABOUT THAT LATER. RIGHT NOW, IT'S TIME TO JUICE!

WELL, QUACK? WERE BOTH OPERATIONS A SUCCESS?
YES, GEOFFREY. THE KING REQUESTED YOUR PRESENCE...
ELIAS, I'M PARALYZED FROM THE WAIST DOWN, AND YOUR MOTHER REQUIRES TIME TO ADJUST. SO, AS OF THIS MOMENT...
...I APPOINT YOU AS ACTING HEAD OF STATE!
I--
DON'T LOOK SO SAD, SWEETHEART. THIS IS ONLY TEMPORARY-- YOUR FATHER WILL BE BETTER IN NO TIME...
WHAT?! ARE YOU SURE, HERSHEY?
AH, GEOFFREY! YOU'RE HERE. I HAVE SOMETHING TO TELL YOU--
I'M FORCED TO SPEAK FIRST, SIRE. THE SWORD OF ACORNS HAS BEEN STOLEN!


TO ME!
TO ME!!
THE SWORD BELONGS TO ME!
HO! HO! HO! THE HEDGEHOG MUST BE LIVID...
...IF HE ISN'T DEAD ALREADY.
LET'S SEE...


ALERT! ALERT!
TWO UNIDENTIFIED OBJECTS HAVE BEEN DETECTED IN FREE-FALL OVER MOBIUS. ULTIMATE DESTINATION: ROBOTROPOLIS.
WHAT?! COM-BOTS-- FORGET SONIC! RETURN TO BASE AT ONCE!
THEY'RE LEAVING AT LAST! A FEW MORE SECONDS AND THEY WOULD'VE HEARD MY HEART BEATING!
Uhhh...
SUCKER-PUNCHED BY COM-BOTS. NOW I WAKE UP INSIDE A LOG. NOT BAD...
...I DIDN'T FIGURE ON WAKING UP. MINA? WHAT'S WRONG?
I LOST THE SWORD.


YEAH, BUT YOU MANAGED TO SAVE BOTH OUR LIVES. NOW, COME ON...
...LET'S GET IT BACK!
I WANT THAT ACCURSED WEAPON IN MY GRASP--
-- BEFORE THOSE METEORS HIT!
MY ROOF-TOP OBSERVATION DECK IS AS GOOD A PLACE AS ANY TO WATCH THE FIREWORKS, AND MY COM-BOTS' RETURN.
THERE THEY ARE--
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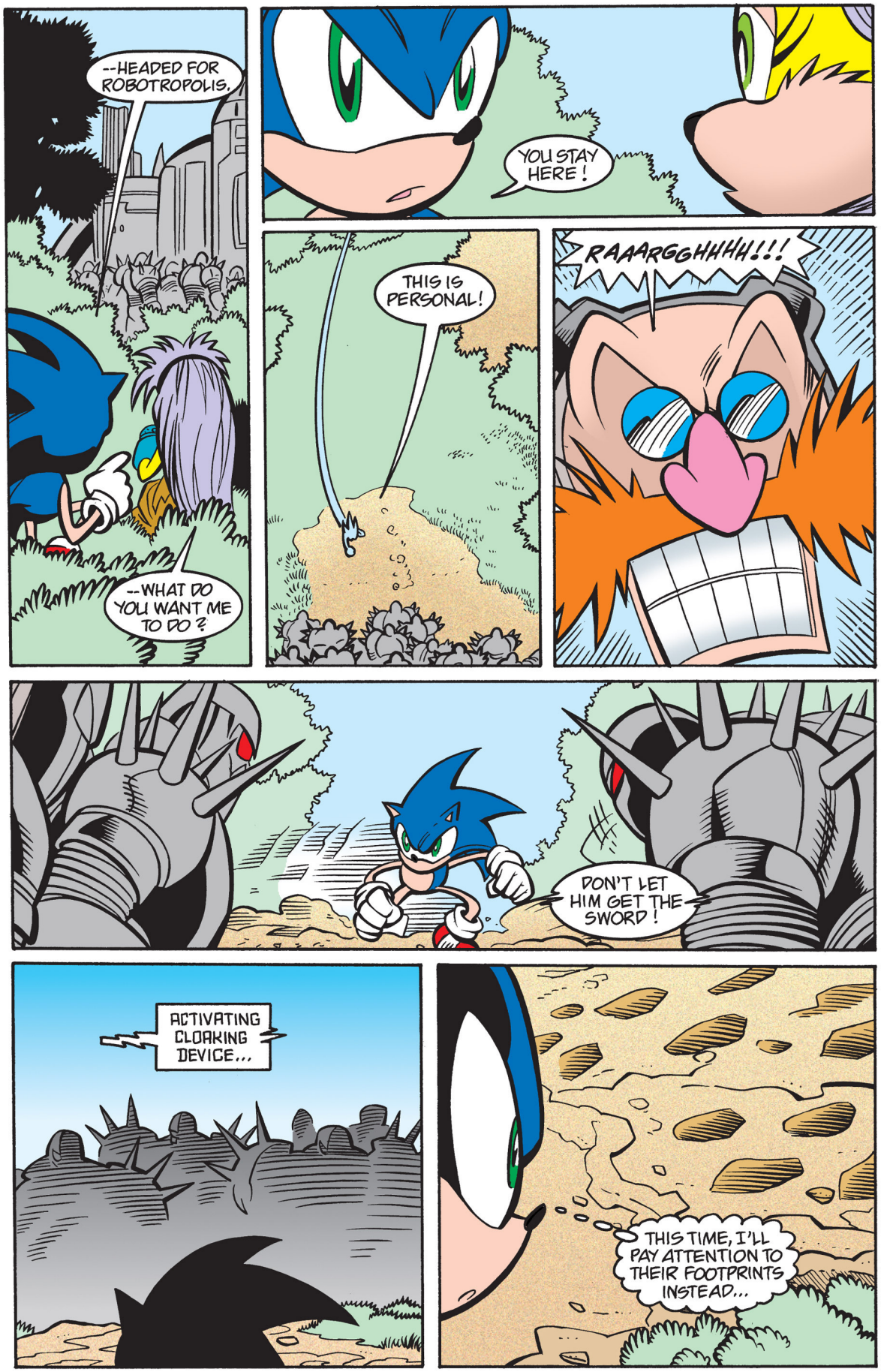
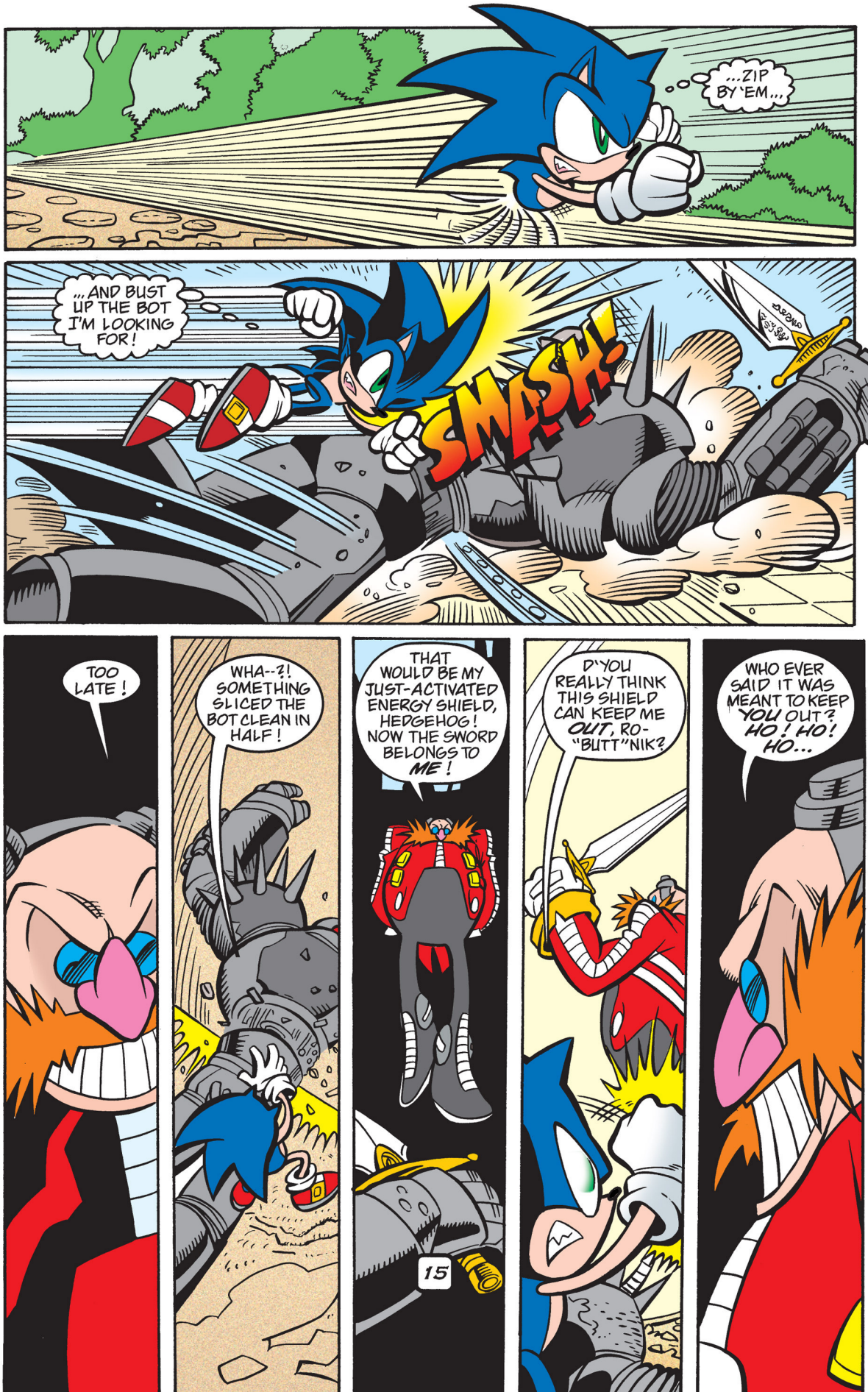

--HEADED FOR ROBOTROPOLIS.
--WHAT DO YOU WANT ME TO DO?
YOU STAY HERE!
THIS IS PERSONAL!
RAAARGGHHHH!!!
DON'T LET HIM GET THE SWORD!
ACTIVATING CLOAKING DEVICE...
THIS TIME, I'LL PAY ATTENTION TO THEIR FOOTPRINTS INSTEAD...


...ZIP BY 'EM...
...AND BUST UP THE BOT I'M LOOKING FOR!
SMASH!
TOO LATE!
WHA--?! SOMETHING SLICED THE BOT CLEAN IN HALF!
THAT WOULD BE MY JUST-ACTIVATED ENERGY SHIELD, HEDGEHOG! NOW THE SWORD BELONGS TO ME!
D'YOU REALLY THINK THIS SHIELD CAN KEEP ME OUT, RO-"BUTT"NIK?
WHO EVER SAID IT WAS MEANT TO KEEP YOU OUT? HO! HO! HO...
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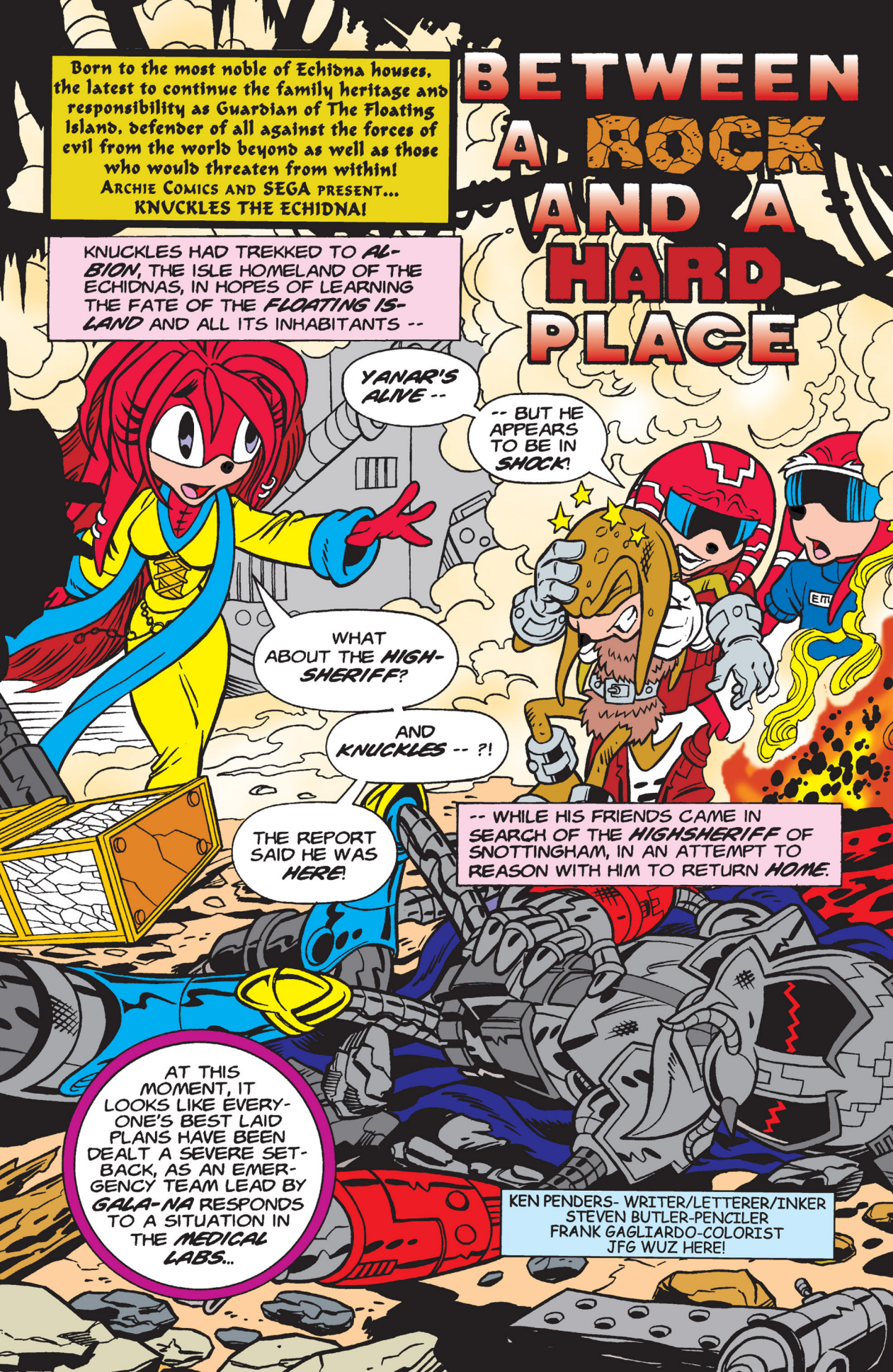
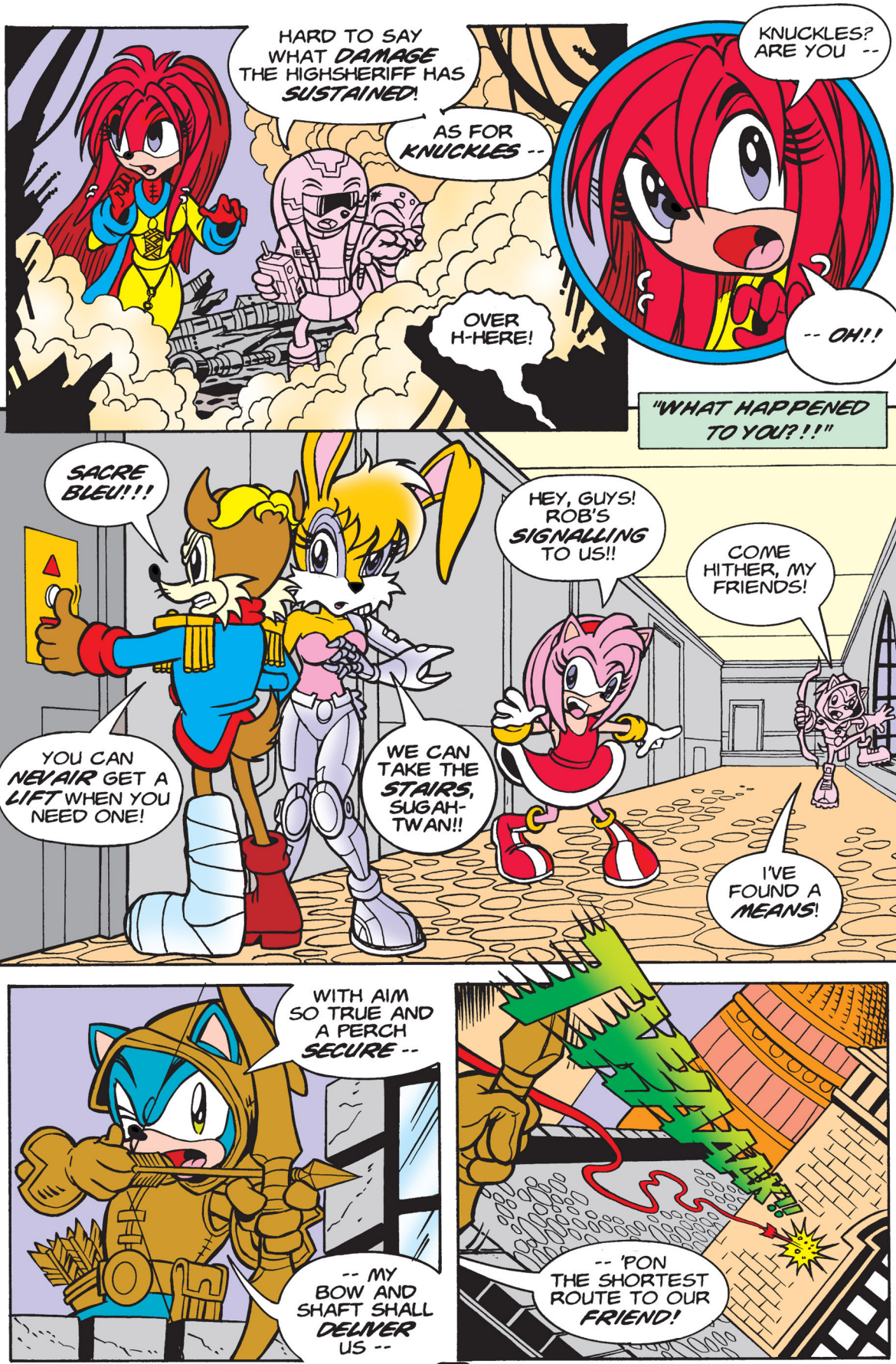
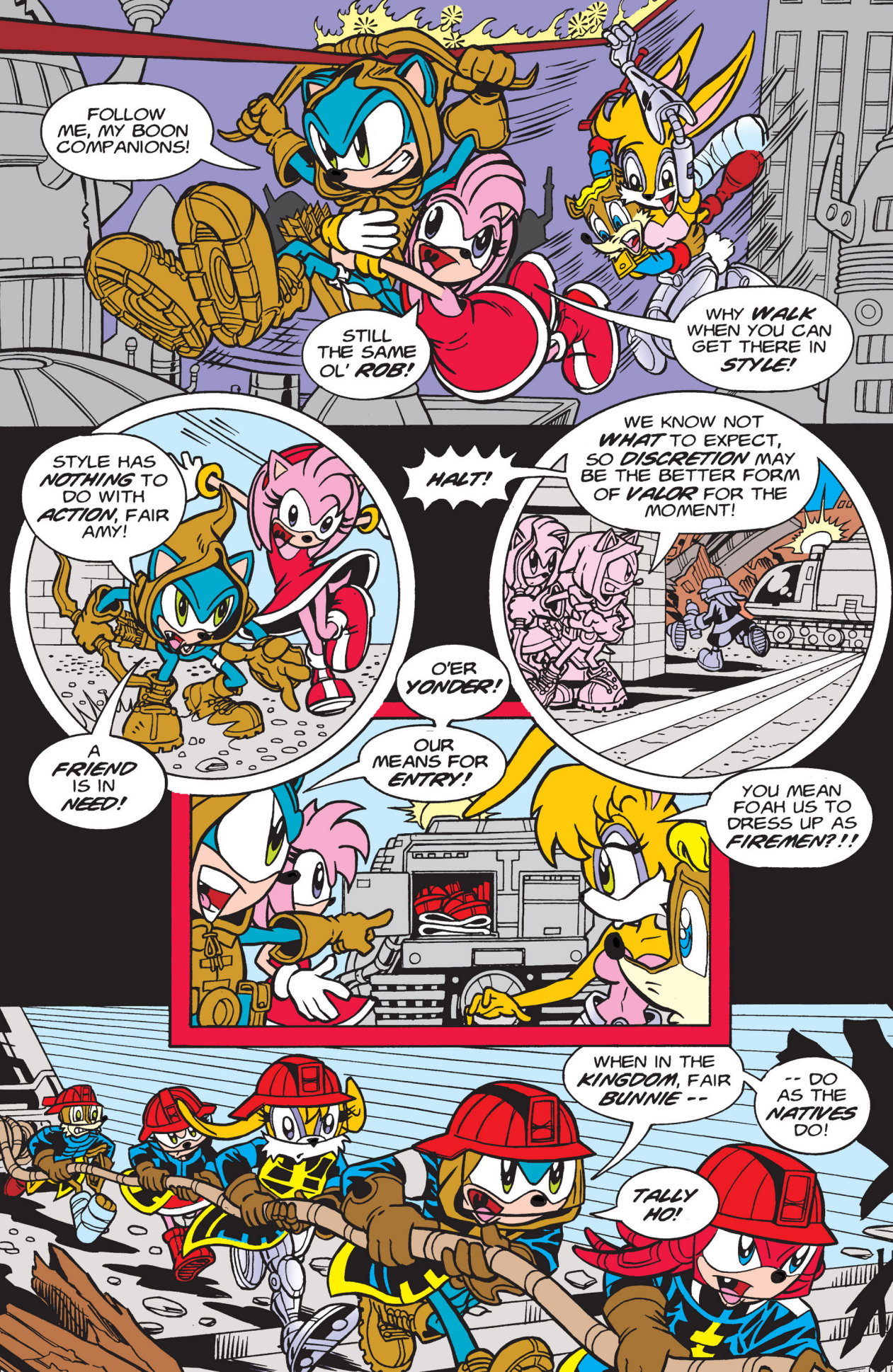
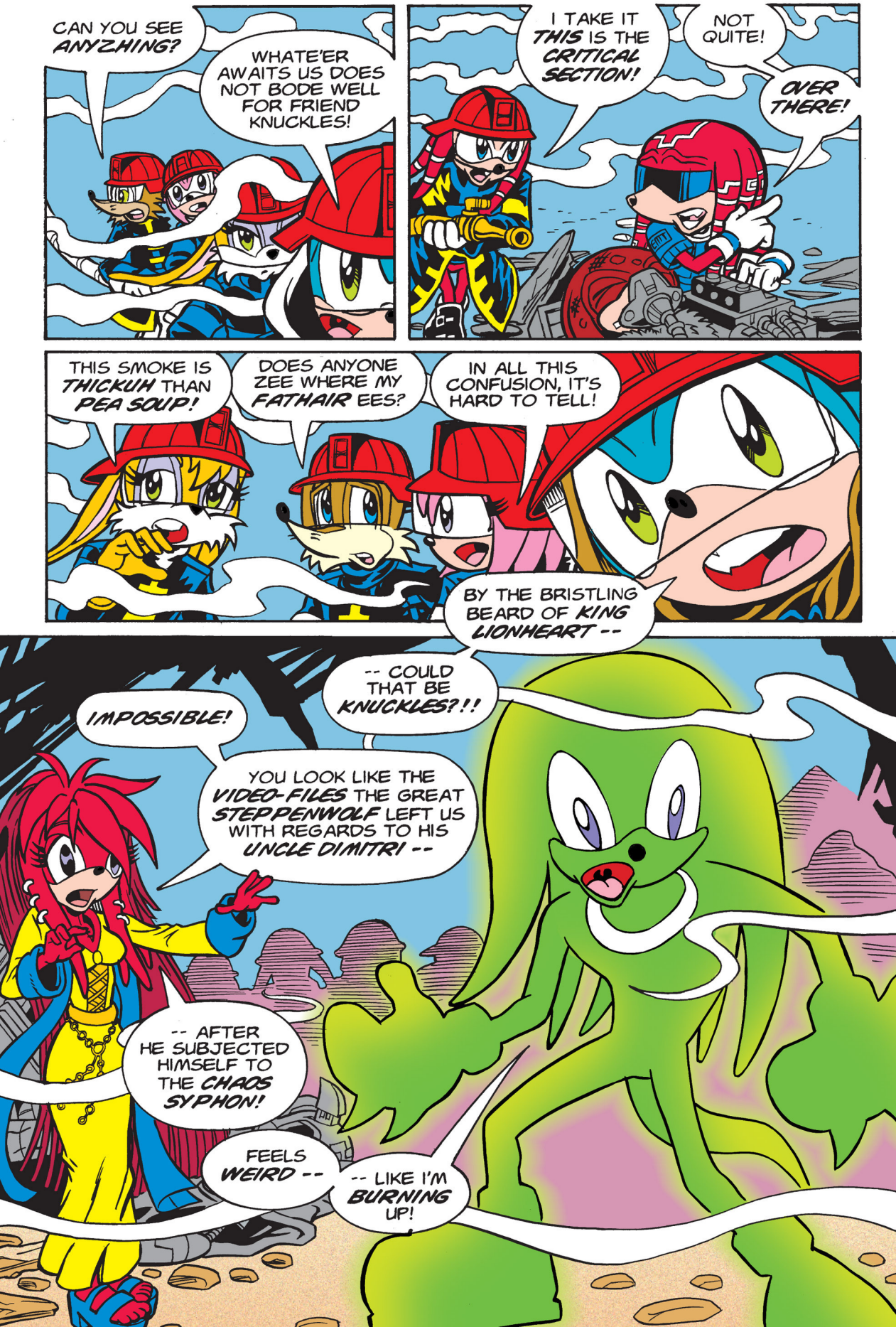
HOI! HOI! HOI! HOI!
DON'T MISS NEXT ISSUE!! NO MATTER WHAT!!!


Born to the most noble of Echidna houses, the latest to continue the family heritage and responsibility as Guardian of The Floating Island, defender of all against the forces of evil from the world beyond as well as those who would threaten from within!
ARCHIE COMICS AND SEGA PRESENT...
KNUCKLES THE ECHIDNA!
BETWEEN A ROCK AND A HARD PLACE
KNUCKLES HAD TREKKED TO ALBION, THE ISLE HOMELAND OF THE ECHIDNAS, IN HOPES OF LEARNING THE FATE OF THE FLOATING ISLAND AND ALL ITS INHABITANTS --
YANAR'S ALIVE --
-- BUT HE APPEARS TO BE IN SHOCK!
WHAT ABOUT THE HIGH-SHERIFF?
AND KNUCKLES -- ?!
THE REPORT SAID HE WAS HERE!
-- WHILE HIS FRIENDS CAME IN SEARCH OF THE HIGHSHERIFF OF SNOTTINGHAM, IN AN ATTEMPT TO REASON WITH HIM TO RETURN HOME.
AT THIS MOMENT, IT LOOKS LIKE EVERY-ONE'S BEST LAID PLANS HAVE BEEN DEALT A SEVERE SET-BACK, AS AN EMER-GENCY TEAM LEAD BY GALA-NA RESPONDS TO A SITUATION IN THE MEDICAL LABS...
KEN PENDERS- WRITER/LETTERER/INKER
STEVEN BUTLER-PENCILER
FRANK GAGLIARDO-COLORIST
JFG WUZ HERE!

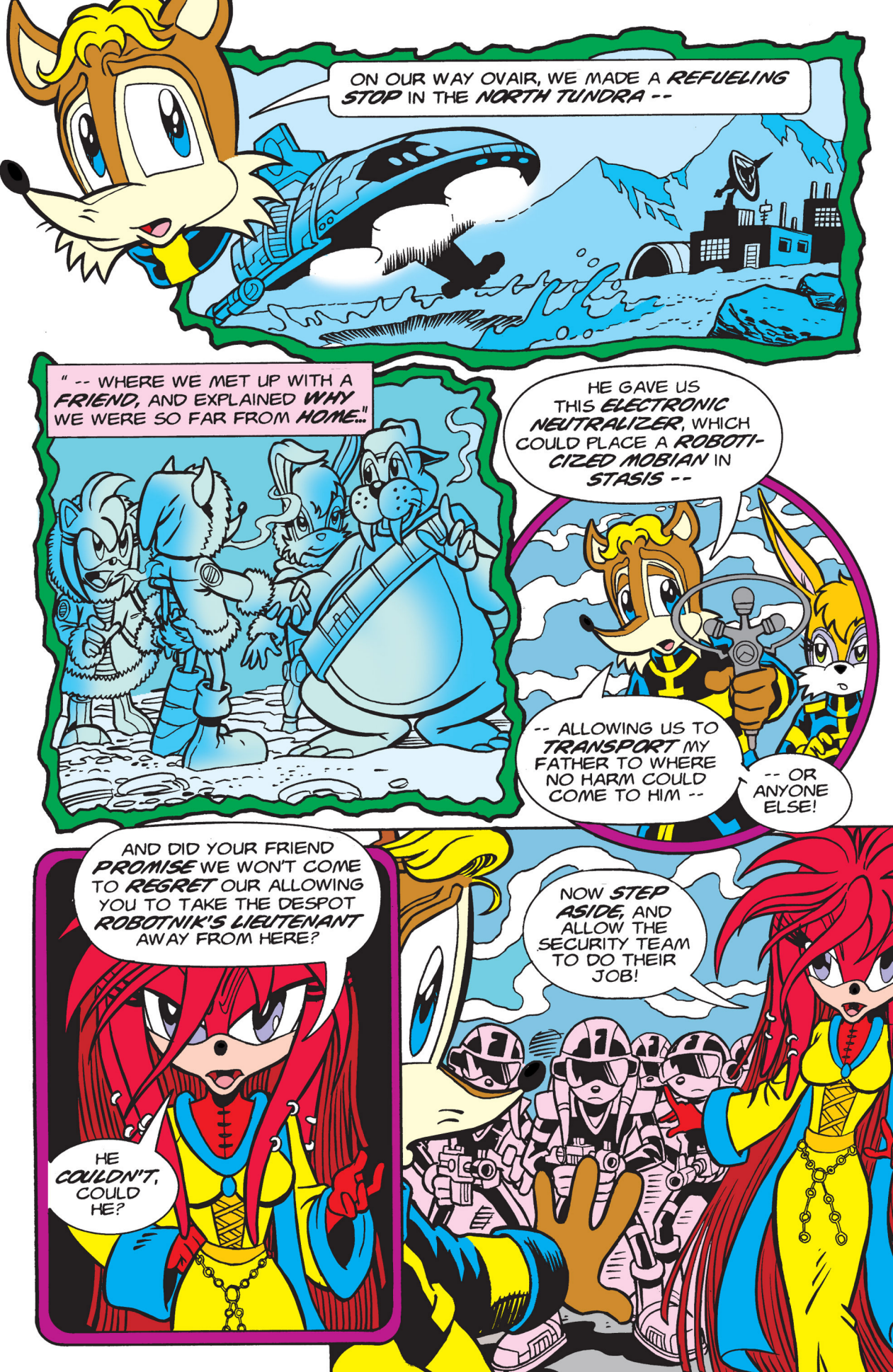

HARD TO SAY WHAT DAMAGE THE HIGHSHERIFF HAS SUSTAINED!
AS FOR KNUCKLES --
OVER H-HERE!
KNUCKLES? ARE YOU --
-- OH!!
"WHAT HAPPENED TO YOU?!!"
SACRE BLEU!!!
YOU CAN NEVAIR GET A LIFT WHEN YOU NEED ONE!
WE CAN TAKE THE STAIRS, SUGAH-TWAN!!
HEY, GUYS! ROB'S SIGNALLING TO US!!
COME HITHER, MY FRIENDS!
I'VE FOUND A MEANS!
WITH AIM SO TRUE AND A PERCH SECURE --
-- MY BOW AND SHAFT SHALL DELIVER US --
-- 'PON THE SHORTEST ROUTE TO OUR FRIEND!

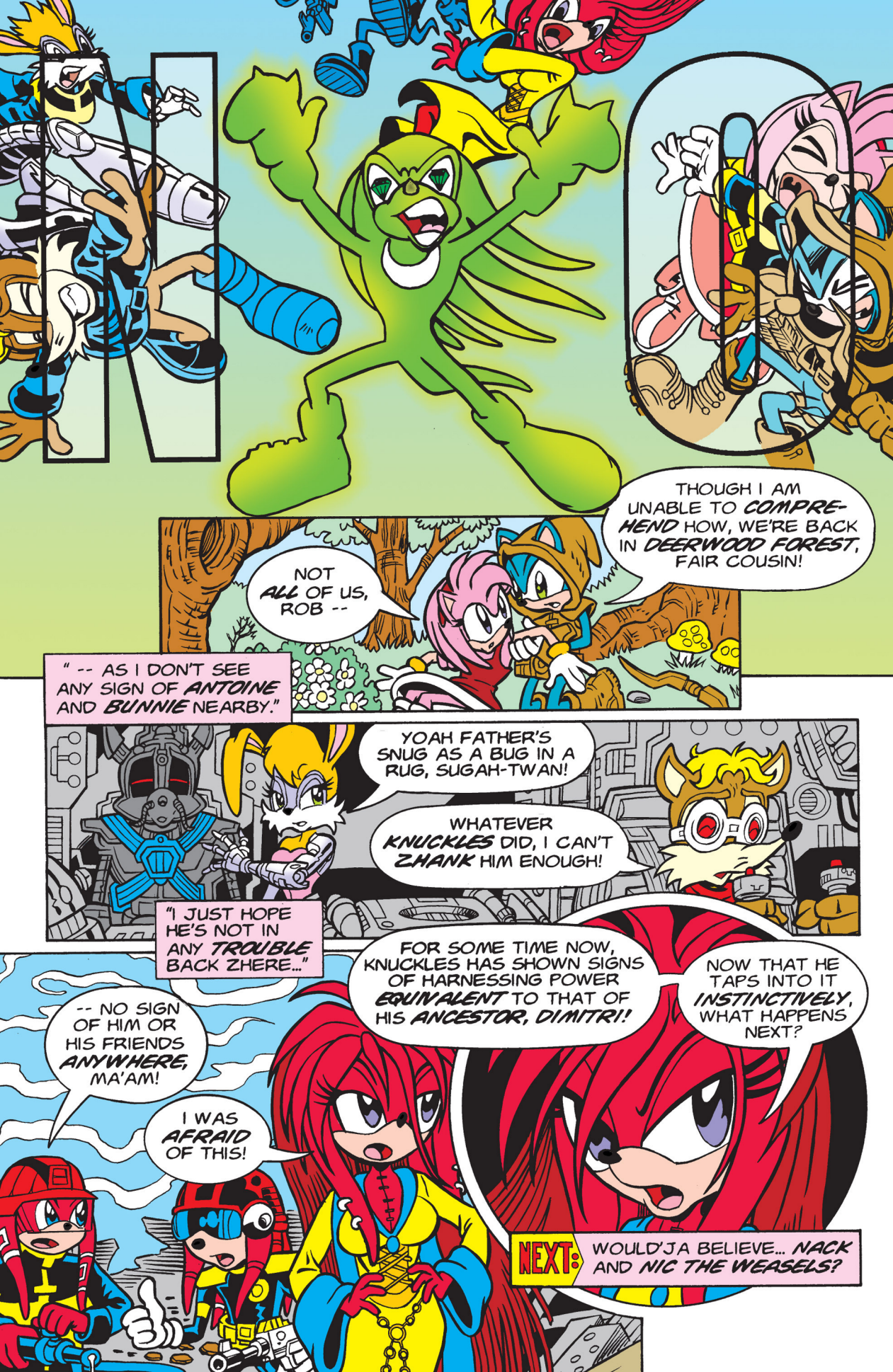

FOLLOW ME, MY BOON COMPANIONS!
STILL THE SAME OL' ROB!
WHY WALK WHEN YOU CAN GET THERE IN STYLE!
STYLE HAS NOTHING TO DO WITH ACTION, FAIR AMY!
A FRIEND IS IN NEED!
HALT!
WE KNOW NOT WHAT TO EXPECT, SO DISCRETION MAY BE THE BETTER FORM OF VALOR FOR THE MOMENT!
O'ER YONDER!
OUR MEANS FOR ENTRY!
YOU MEAN FOAH US TO DRESS UP AS FIREMEN?!!
WHEN IN THE KINGDOM, FAIR BUNNIE --
-- DO AS THE NATIVES DO!
TALLY HO!


CAN YOU SEE ANYZHING?
WHATE'ER AWAITS US DOES NOT BODE WELL FOR FRIEND KNUCKLES!
I TAKE IT THIS IS THE CRITICAL SECTION!
NOT QUITE!
OVER THERE!
THIS SMOKE IS THICKUH THAN PEA SOUP!
DOES ANYONE ZEE WHERE MY FATHAIR EES?
IN ALL THIS CONFUSION, IT'S HARD TO TELL!
BY THE BRISTLING BEARD OF KING LIONHEART --
-- COULD THAT BE KNUCKLES?!!
IMPOSSIBLE!
YOU LOOK LIKE THE VIDEO-FILES THE GREAT STEPPENWOLF LEFT US WITH REGARDS TO HIS UNCLE DIMITRI --
-- AFTER HE SUBJECTED HIMSELF TO THE CHAOS SYPHON!
FEELS WEIRD --
-- LIKE I'M BURNING UP!

ME -- LIKE DIMITRI?!!
HARDLY!
LOOK AT YOURSELF, KNUCKLES --
-- THE EMBODIMENT OF CHAOS ENERGY ITSELF!
HOW?!!
I DIDN'T AIM A CHAOS SYPHON AT MYSELF!
MAYBE IT WAS PASSED DOWN TO YOU ZOMEHOW THROUGH ZEE FAMILY!
NOBODY ELSE SINCE EVER BECAME LIKE DIMITRI!
FAMILY HISTORIES CAN BE A DIFFICULT THING TO TRACE, MONSIEUR!
FOR INSTANCE --
MY FATHAIR!!!
IT'S ME, ANTOINE --
-- YOUR SON!!!
FATHAIR!! ARE YOU ALL RIGHT?!
WHAAK

THAT'S NOT A WAY A DAD SHOULD ACT TOWARDS HIS BOY!
GET ME SECURITY!
INTRUDER ALERT!!
DO NOT ALLOW HIM PAST THIS COMPLEX!! SET PARTICLE CHARGES TO MAXIMUM!
BEGGIN' YOAH PARDON, MA'AM --
-- BUT YO'ALL NOT THINKIN' OF DOING ANYTHING DRASTIC NOW?
PLEASE -- PLEASE!! STOP ZIS!!!
LET ME REASON WITH MY FATHER!!
IF THERE WERE ANY OTHER WAY, I'D CONSIDER IT --
-- BUT THE HIGHSHERIFF POSES A MAJOR THREAT!
OUR SOCIETY WOULD BE AT GRAVE RISK IF HE WERE TO ESCAPE!
THE HIGHSHERIFF CAN'T DO ANYTHING AT THE MOMENT!
WHAT'S YOUR PLAN, ANTOINE?


ON OUR WAY OVAIR, WE MADE A REFUELING STOP IN THE NORTH TUNDRA --
" -- WHERE WE MET UP WITH A FRIEND, AND EXPLAINED WHY WE WERE SO FAR FROM HOME..."
HE GAVE US THIS ELECTRONIC NEUTRALIZER, WHICH COULD PLACE A ROBOTICIZED MOBIAN IN STASIS --
-- ALLOWING US TO TRANSPORT MY FATHER TO WHERE NO HARM COULD COME TO HIM --
-- OR ANYONE ELSE!
AND DID YOUR FRIEND PROMISE WE WON'T COME TO REGRET OUR ALLOWING YOU TO TAKE THE DESPOT ROBOTNIK'S LIEUTENANT AWAY FROM HERE?
HE COULDN'T, COULD HE?
NOW STEP ASIDE, AND ALLOW THE SECURITY TEAM TO DO THEIR JOB!


THOUGH I AM UNABLE TO COMPREHEND HOW, WE'RE BACK IN DEERWOOD FOREST, FAIR COUSIN!
NOT ALL OF US, ROB --
" -- AS I DON'T SEE ANY SIGN OF ANTOINE AND BUNNIE NEARBY."
YOAH FATHER'S SNUG AS A BUG IN A RUG, SUGAH-TWAN!
WHATEVER KNUCKLES DID, I CAN'T ZHANK HIM ENOUGH!
"I JUST HOPE HE'S NOT IN ANY TROUBLE BACK ZHERE..."
FOR SOME TIME NOW, KNUCKLES HAS SHOWN SIGNS OF HARNESSING POWER EQUIVALENT TO THAT OF HIS ANCESTOR, DIMITRI!
NOW THAT HE TAPS INTO IT INSTINCTIVELY, WHAT HAPPENS NEXT?
-- NO SIGN OF HIM OR HIS FRIENDS ANYWHERE, MA'AM!
I WAS AFRAID OF THIS!
NEXT: WOULD'JA BELIEVE... NACK AND NIC THE WEASELS?